

CORRECTION TO MARANATHA AD REPORT

March 16, 2012 (David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org; for instructions about subscribing and unsubscribing or changing addresses, see the information paragraph at the end of the article)

There could be a mistake in the report on the Maranatha Baptist College ad in this week's Friday Church News Notes, as there might not be a profanity uttered on the video. The problem is that this part of the audio can easily be mistaken for one, and I still am not certain about it. Before writing the report I had listened to the video several times and each time it sounded to me like a profanity was uttered. Three other men who listened to it thought the same thing, but after being challenged on this, I have listened to that part of the video again repeatedly and I can see that there might not be a profanity. It's hard to tell!

Anyway, following is the revised report:

MARANATHA BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE GETTING REAL COOL (Friday Church News Notes, March 16, 2012, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Maranatha Baptist Bible College's (Wisconsin) new enrollment advertisement is done in a Southern Gospel rap style. The theme is that Maranatha is fun and cool and will guarantee success so that you can graduate and be a "big cheese" with your "accredited degree." Along the way, you can have banana splits and even pick up some "theology" and meet a cool life partner. The lead male singer is decked out in his T-shirt and baseball cap cocked to the side in a very cool fashion, and his rap buddies are very cool in their shades and little rap hand moves. Even more disturbing is the fact that several faculty male members appear in the video "jiving" to the music. Compared to full-blown Christian rock, this video is fairly "innocent," but the advertisement is obviously patterned after the world's music videos and it reflects a shallow, carnal approach to Bible College. Pastor Dave Sorenson comments: "What bothered me was not only the attempt of a 'punk' appearance of the fellows in the video, but even more so the faculty members who were 'jiving' and literally swinging to the music. It is one thing for college kids to generate this sort of thing on their own, even in a fundamental college. But it is another thing for the college administration to officially put their imprimatur upon it which the head honchos at MBBC clearly did. I knew the Cedarholms personally on several levels. They would roll over in the graves if they saw that video." Maranatha is playing with fire. It is on a slippery slope, and the worldliness won't stop here. It is not that far from the stuff that Maranatha is playing with to the funky Jesus music that we describe in this same issue of Friday News. This is very sad, as it is further evidence of the collapse of separatism among fundamental Baptists. See the video at <http://vimeo.com/37974789>. It is possible that the video will be taken down at some point (we have a copy), as I have heard that Maranatha's chairman of the board is not happy about it, but when an institution represents a mixed multitude in thinking pertaining to important issues, it is doomed. If there is not one mind and one purpose, spiritual downfall is inevitable. In light of the hurricane-force winds of end-time apostasy that we are facing, it has never been more true that a house divided cannot stand.

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